



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
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| APPLICATION NUMBER | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED APPLICANT | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. |
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09/557,804

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| EXAMINER |
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E. White

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| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
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1623

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DATE MAILED:

INTERVIEW SUMMARY

All participants (applicant, applicant's representative, PTO personnel):

- (1) Everett White (3) R. Bruce Harding, Ph.D. / John H. Roberts
(2) Susan L. H. Gresham (4) Jay P. Lessler

Date of Interview _____

Type: ☐ Telephonic ☒ Personal (copy is given to ☒ applicant ☒ applicant's representative).

Exhibit shown or demonstration conducted: ☒ Yes ☐ No If yes, brief description: Cellulose ethers & Cellulose pulp sheets.

Agreement ☒ was reached. ☐ was not reached.

Claim(s) discussed: Claims 1-59.

Identification of prior art discussed: Prior art of record.

Description of the general nature of what was agreed to if an agreement was reached, or any other comments:

Applicants explained in detail the difference between their claimed invention and the prior art. The viscosity of CMC in the claims, appears to be much greater than what is disclosed in the prior art. To distinguish the claimed invention from the prior art, it appears that the process will have to be considered as product-by-process claims.

(A fuller description, if necessary, and a copy of the amendments, if available, which the examiner agreed would render the claims allowable must be attached. Also, where no copy of the amendments which would render the claims allowable is available, a summary thereof must be attached.)

1. ☒ It is not necessary for applicant to provide a separate record of the substance of the interview.

Unless the paragraph above has been checked to indicate to the contrary, A FORMAL WRITTEN RESPONSE TO THE LAST OFFICE ACTION IS NOT WAIVED AND MUST INCLUDE THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. (See MPEP Section 713.04). If a response to the last Office action has been filed, APPLICANT IS GIVEN ONE MONTH FROM THIS INTERVIEW DATE TO FILE A STATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW.

2. ☐ Since the Examiner's interview summary above (including any attachments) reflects a complete response to each of the objections, rejections and requirements that may be present in the last Office action, and since the claims are now allowable, this completed form is considered to fulfill the response requirements of the last Office action. Applicant is not relieved from providing a separate record of the interview unless box 1 above is also checked.

Examiner Note: You must sign this form unless it is an attachment to another form.

ETHER MANUFACTURING PROCESS

PATENT APPLICATION

- Mercerize Cellulose Pulp with Cellulose II mercerizing agent.
- Wash, Neutralize or Neutralize and Wash the Mercerizing Agent from the Cellulose Pulp (i.e. Recover the Cellulose)

STANDARD ETHER

MANUFACTURING PROCESS

- Select Cellulose Pulp for Target Ether Viscosity.
- Disintegrate (Grind, Shred, etc.) Sheet into Floc.
- Add NaOH to make Alkali Cellulose.
- Add Etherification Chemical:
 - (Chloroacetic Acid - CMC; Methyl Chloride - MC, Ethylene Oxide - HEC).
- Wash (Purify), Dry, Disintegrate (Powder).